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### Official Directory.

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Secretary of Internal Affairs—James Latta.

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F. & A. M.—McKean Lodge, No. 308, meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, at 7½ o'clock p. m., at Masonic Hall, Main street. W. H. D. WELLS, W. M.
W. F. SPECHT, Secy.

I. O. O. F.—Smethport Lodge, No. 399, meets Friday evening at 8 o'clock in I. O. O. F. Hall. Will work Initiatory degree 1st meeting of each month; 1st degree on second, 2d degree on third, and 3d degree on fourth meetings.
S. R. LINDSLEY, N. G.
J. C. GALLUP, Secy.

I. O. O. F.—Smethport Encampment No. 273 meets the First and Third Wednesdays of each month in I. O. O. F. Hall.
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H. M. CROATE, Scribe.

CIVILLA REBEKAH LODGE, No. 50, I. O. O. F., Meets every Monday evening at 7:30 in I. O. O. F. Hall.
MARY L. LYMAN, N. G.
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O. A. R.—McKean Post No. 317, meets First and Third Thursday even ng, of each month at 7:30 o'clock, in the A. O. U. W. Hall (second floor).
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W. R. C.—Meets Thursday afternoon at A. O. U. W. Hall, Backus Block.
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A. O. U. W.—Smethport Lodge, No. 183, meets second, fourth and last Tuesday evenings of each month in the A. O. U. W. Hall, Backus Block.
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K. O. T. M.—Smethport Tent, No. 9, meets every Monday evening at 7:30 in A. O. U. W. hall, Backus Block.
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L. O. T. M.—Brown Hive, No. 48 Meets in A. O. U. W. hall, Backus Block, Tuesday afternoon.
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C. M. B. A.—Smethport Branch 83, meets second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at W. C. T. U. hall, Backus block, at 7:30 p. m.
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W. C. T. U.—Meets every alternate Saturday afternoon at 3 p. m., in the M. E. Chapel.
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P. H. C.—Smethport Branch, No. 25, meets on First and Third Wednesday evenings of each month in Backus Hall. Dr. CHADWICK, Pres.
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Baptist—REV. T. R. TAYLOR, pastor. Preaching every Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Bible school directly after morning services. Prayer meeting on Wednesday evenings at 7 o'clock. Young People's prayer meeting at 7:00 p. m. every Sunday evening. Covenant meeting Saturday before the first Sunday in each month at 2 o'clock p. m. and the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of every second month. All are welcome.

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St. Eulalia's Catholic Church.—Rev. Michael Hand, pastor. Mass at 11 a. m.; service at 11:30 a. m. Sunday school at 3 p. m. Services on every alternate Sunday at Smethport and Cherry Hill.

Union Services are held in Kane's Commercial house, East Smethport, every Sunday evening. Sunday school at 2:30 p. m. Preaching at 3:30 p. m. by Rev. I. T. Taylor.

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## A Cottage By The Volga.

BY STEPNIAK
AUTHOR OF "UNDERGROUND RUSSIA" "SAVED BY THE STARS AND STRIPES" &c.

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CHAPTER I.

The night express was rushing across the last 50 miles of country before B——, one of the chief towns on the Volga. The lights in the villages by the way had long been put out, and all the huge plain by the right bank of the Volga was a stretch of unbroken blackness. Cornfields, meadows, black masses of forest, were all swallowed up in it. Here and there stood like ant hills clusters of low huts with their pointed thatched roofs—the dwellings of the poverty stricken Volga peasantry—and behind them, at a little distance, were the tall stacks of newly harvested corn, more regular in shape than the huts, but easily mistakable for them in the darkness.

The moon had not yet risen. A gentle night breeze, blowing from the great river, languidly drove along the gray clouds that overhung the sky and shut out the starlight with their thick veil. A fine drizzling rain was falling.

A belated tradesman, returning from the town, could hardly see the black, winding road and, flinging the reins aside, left his horse to find the way for itself. The careful horse, treading gravelly and warily, glanced from time to time at the low railway line crossing the black plain, hardly visible in the darkness. The thin lines of glittering rail, running straight as an arrow over the broad sleepers and disappearing whichever way one looked in the lonesome blackness, had set up a faint, hardly audible hum, heralding the approach of the train. From somewhere in the far distance came the long, low whistle of the engine. The horse pricked up its ears and neighed, snuffing the air. Its master gathered up the reins and turned a little aside from the embankment. In a few moments two fiery eyes appeared on the horizon. The rails gave a sharp ring, and the train swept along the smooth line with the constrictive motion of a skater on the ice and fled roaring past like a whirlwind in a cloud of smoke, lighting up the spot for an instant and flinging a crimson glow on to the low clouds that hung looking down into its fiery entrails.

There was something festive and triumphal in this long row of brightly lighted moving palaces—so they seemed—that flew so swiftly and so easily, as at the waving of a magician's wand, past the sleeping villages and black fields and woods, laughing at space and darkness and foul weather.

There is something of this look about a ballroom, seen from the qilteide, glittering with light and gilding, with the band playing and the gorgeously dressed dancers flashing before the glass doors——, standing outside in the cold and darkness, involuntarily thinks of happiness and merriment and pleasure. But there are often hidden tears in ballrooms, and in this flying palace a gloomy drama was being enacted.

In a reserved first class compartment about the middle of the train sat three passengers. Two of them were in military uniforms, blue, edged with white, showing them to be gendarmes. The third, evidently their prisoner, was in civilian dress. So far as one could judge from his slender figure and the fair, curly beard and mustache, showing from under the hat he had pulled over his eyes, he seemed to be young.

One of the gendarmes was stretched at on the seat fast asleep. The other sat in a corner, holding himself unnaturally upright and making desperate efforts to keep awake. From time to time, however, he nodded, then energetically shook himself and glanced suspiciously at the young man whom they were escorting.

The prisoner, leaning back in his corner with his legs stretched out before him, appeared to be sleeping soundly. His chest rose and fell slowly and evenly, and his quiet, regular breathing could be heard in the intervals of the rattling made by the train. But if any one had suddenly peeped under the wide brim of his felt hat he would have seen two gray eyes shining with a burning, intense watchfulness that plainly showed how far the young prisoner was from sleep. His brain was at work upon a plan of escape—an audacious, desperate plan—and now all his fate depended upon whether this red faced, thick headed gendarme should go to sleep or not. From under the brim of his slouched hat he watched without letting his attention wander for a moment.

The gendarme swayed to and fro like a long pendulum about to stop. Then he suddenly fell forward almost on to the head of his sleeping comrade and started up, glancing keenly at the prisoner, who remained in the same position as before.

Then the gendarme, satisfying himself that all was safe, would open his eyes wide and stare at the wall, struggling to keep his eyes open. Several minutes passed. The train rushed on and on, piercing the darkness before it, with the wheels beating out a regular tune as they turned. The windows kept up a weak, plaintive rattle, and the incessant jolting, softened by the springs of the thick cushions, acted as an irresistible soporific on the dull brain of a man unaccustomed to any mental activity. The gendarme nodded and shook himself oftener and oftener, and the prisoner, waiting in breathless agitation, counted the moments until his jailer should fall back and snore.

Suddenly, however, the gendarme roused himself. He remembered that a pipe was a capital thing to keep oneself awake with. He pulled out a tobacco pouch, carefully filled a short wooden pipe and, settling himself comfortably in his corner, put the pipe in his mouth and struck a match.

"Damn him!" whispered the prisoner to himself, closing his eyes in despair. His last hope had failed.

At this moment something fell to the floor. He opened his eyes quickly and saw, under the opposite seat, the pipe which had fallen from the gendarme's hand. Its owner was sleeping heavily, with the contented look settled on his face which it had taken when he shifted his position to smoke in comfort.

A delight, almost as painful in its intensity as the despair of a minute before, rushed over the soul of the young prisoner. It was as if freedom had suddenly appeared before him—as though there no longer stood between him and liberty a terrible obstacle which nothing but the merest chance could enable him to conquer.

He walked a few moments, then very cautiously, pushed back the [illegible] and made his way [illegible] passage to the [illegible] for space and throwing it into [illegible] relief his manly [illegible] beams the damp earth, the villages and the motionless figure lying by the railway line. A fresh breeze began to blow. The clouds in the east grew paler, awaiting the dawn, and still the dark mass lay motionless, and now in the faint dawning light bloody spots began to show on the white sand about its head.

A little band of quickly moving white smoke appeared once again on the horizon and under the smoke a black line. It was the first goods train of the early morning. It came nearer, with its long chain of gray carriages—nearer and nearer—and then, with a deafening roar and rattle, passed by, making the ground shake as it went. The engine driver opened the valve, and a shrieking whistle pierced the damp morning air.

The inert human mass shuddered and writhed, and at the last harsh sound the man regained consciousness, sprang up and, driven by some panic of terror, started off to run, leaping and stumbling among the weeds and bushes.

The train went off in the distance, the noise died away and the fugitive gradually came to his senses. He stopped.

"I needn't run," he thought. "There's no one following me."

At first he quite believed that the train which had startled him to consciousness was the same from which he had so successfully jumped; but, looking at the sky, and seeing that day was dawning, he soon realized that this could not be and that he must have lain insensible for a long time.

He pulled his watch out of his pocket, but it had struck against a stone and was broken. From the color of the sky, it must now be about 4 in the morning.

Something warm was trickling down his forehead.

He touched it with his hand—it was blood! His face was all smeared with clotted blood.

"I'm in a sweet state to show myself to people!" he thought.

But how was he to stop the bleeding? The wound was not serious, but it was extremely inconvenient at the moment. He opened a little knapsack, which he had hung over his shoulder and forgot to take off, but there was nothing in it except a pocket handkerchief and some writing materials. Fortunately there were some weeds with thick, milky stalks growing near. He picked several stalks and, squeezing out the sticky white juice, smeared it on the wound. The bleeding stopped.

"That's all right," he said to himself joyfully.

The only thing left for him was to get away from this dangerous spot as quickly as possible. To walk to the town was out of the question. He could not reach it before midday, and by that time the whole police force would be on the lookout for him and he trapped like a rat.

He decided to go across country at first and toward the nearest dwelling. There he should find out what to do next.

He crossed the line quickly and went straight southward, cutting across the road which ran parallel to the railway, and with a sense of delight penetrated into the thicket, which seemed to tenderly receive him and hide him in its embrace.

He walked on for about half an hour, glancing from time to time at the whitening east in order not to lose his way.

Beyond the copse was a wide open plain, in which a man could be seen at three miles distance. After the thicket he felt a kind of shrinking from walking in the open plain. Anybody could see at a glance that he was not a native of the place, and then that traveling knapsack—he wished he had thrown it away in the thicket. It would be dangerous to leave it in the open field.

In front of him was a freshly built stack. The fugitive approached it with the intention of hiding his knapsack in it, but glancing backward perceived at 100 paces from him two peasants, whose faces he could not see clearly in the dim light of the dawn. One was a youngish, dark haired man, the other old and gray headed. They were both dressed in greasy sheepskin "touloups" and were standing still with their arms hanging loosely beside them. Although they were looking straight at him their expression was so indifferent and apathetic that he felt convinced they had not noticed him. He went up to them.

"Good morning!" he said.

"Morning," answered the elder.

"Can you tell me," asked the fugitive, "where I can get a horse and trap about here?"

The peasants exchanged glances.

"Well, of course, you can get a horse in the village," said the elder one. "Where may you be from?"

"I'm traveling through here," answered the young man, "and I missed the last train at the station. I didn't want to wait till the morning train, because I'm in a hurry, so I started to walk and lost my way. I've been wandering about all night."

"I see. Of course you didn't want to wait. It's only three hours' walk to the town," said the peasant. "But how did you come to lose your way? The old road runs beside the railroad all the way."

"He guesses — confound him!" thought the young man.

"Well, you see," he said aloud, "I wanted to get a short cut that I knew as the station told me of. And then somehow I lost my way," he added, trying to get out the difficulty in any way.

Not a single muscle moved in the peasant's naive face.

"I see," he said good humoredly. "It's easy to lose one's way in a strange place. You don't come from hereabout I doubt?"

"No. Well, can you tell me the way to the village?" said the young man, wishing to get a stop to this catechism as soon as possible.

"Why, yes. You cross that field and go up on to the hillock there," answered the peasant in a friendly tone and pointing with his finger. "You'll see some bushes to the left and a path through the bushes, but it's only a footpath, mind you. Well, you don't then down there. Then you'll come to a windmill to the right of you. It belonged to the gentlefolk that used to own our village in the old time. Well, you don't go down that way. Be sure you don't, for the mill's empty. Our folk are breaking it up for firewood. But you go straight on, and you'll find a path all the way. Keep along by the path as straight as ever you can go, and you'll come out into some little hills, and there, down in the valley, you'll see our village. It's called Soukhomlia. That's always been its name, Soukhomlia. When you get there, you can ask."

"Thanks," said the young man and walked quickly away.

"Good luck to you," called the peasant after him.

The young man, without stopping, turned back and nodded his head.

"He's naught but a thief," declared the peasant when the young man was out of hearing. "He's stolen somebody's [illegible] in the station. I'll be bound, and the [illegible]

CHAPTER II.

[illegible] passed by and [illegible] the fugitive [illegible] the peasant had [illegible]

*The young man approached the stranger.*

it was going at full speed and, if he should neither be killed nor break his legs, get to the town and find his friends there. They would help him to hide until the first heat of pursuit was over, and then he could return to St. Petersburg. Fortunately he had succeeded in hiding from the stupid provincial police almost all his money, which was sewed into his clothing.

Both the doors of the carriage were locked, as he knew, but the window was wide enough for him. He let down the glass pane. The roar and rattle of the train rushed in, together with a current of fresh air.

Neither of the gendarmes moved. The prisoner thrust his head out of the window and looked out into the darkness. The tops of bushes flitted before his eyes. The train was passing through a copse of young hazel trees, interspersed here and there with dark masses of woods, from under which he could catch glimpses of the whitish sandy soil.

"Just the right place," he thought.

But when he looked straight downward at the line he was seized with horror. The ground, which in front seemed only to skim along quickly, here flew past with maddening speed. Plants, stones, sleepers—all were confused together in one ceaseless, furious, deadly rush. In his brain, exhausted with long sleeplessness, there rose up a vivid picture of himself, crushed, mangled, torn to pieces by these twigs and logs and stones. A sigh, almost a groan, burst from his lips. The weak flesh shrank and begged for mercy.

But this was only for one moment.

"Now or never," he said to himself. Standing up on the cushioned seat, he climbed on to the window, letting both feet hang down outside.

"Stop! Hold him there! Catch him!" suddenly muttered a voice behind him.

He looked back in horror. It was the gendarme, speaking out in his sleep, with some dim half consciousness of what was happening.

Without losing a moment the prisoner sat on the window sill, hung over, slipped down, and, leaning on his right elbow, hung over the rushing black gulf beneath. He began to grow giddy with the terrific noise, the rushing wind stifling him with smoke and the rain of hot coal dust driving in his face. At this moment the train turned round to the right, almost flinging him off with a jerk. Another instant and he would have lost consciousness. But he still kept firmly in his mind the instructions that he had given to himself when thinking out his desperate scheme. Feeling with his right foot for a firm point of resistance and trying to keep as nearly as possible the direction of the train's movement, he threw himself sharply forward with a sudden action of both foot and hand and flew off into space.

It seemed to him that he was flying on and on without end. The whirlwind ceased, and still he flew on through space. He felt as though he should never stop. Had he really jumped? Was it not a dream?

Suddenly something struck against him, as though a huge scythe had cut his feet off. Then followed a violent blow, which flung him down on his face. A few sparks flash before his eyes [illegible] his consciousness.

CHAPTER III.

Within half an hour he came to a bend in the river, where it flowed round a little wooded tongue of land. As he came into this tongue he caught sight of a boat in front of him, but it was not empty. He could neither hire nor steal it, for there was a girl sitting in it whom he saw at a glance to be a lady. She had evidently been bathing, and her wet fair hair was tied up into a heavy knot behind a sailor hat with a narrow brim, under which he could see a young, finely cut face, regular and firm in outline. She wore a blue cotton blouse, fastened at the waist by a leather band. Her arms were bare to the elbow. She had an oar in her hands and was slowly rowing toward the bank. She had brought the boat into the shallow water at the sandy edge and was standing, swaying it with her weight, just ready to jump out, when the young man, descending to the water's edge, came out from among the bushes and coughed to attract her attention.

"I beg your pardon," he began.

The girl turned her great, startled blue eyes on him and with a rapid sweep of her oar pushed the boat back from the edge.

"Don't be frightened. I don't want to hurt you. Stop!" he said.

But the shy creature would not hear him. She sat down beside the rudder and turned the boat round with her oar.

"Wait! I must speak to you. Oh, for God's sake!" he cried out.

The girl stopped.

"What do you want with me?" she asked, still keeping at a respectful distance.

She spoke in a low chest voice, pronouncing the words with a certain not unpleasing drawl.

"I must get across the river—to that village over there. Lend me your boat. I'll send it back to you. Take me across yourself. It won't be a great trouble to you."

The suggestion that she should row across alone with this unknown and fearful looking man frightened her altogether.

"I am not a ferryman," she said, and with a decided gesture turned the boat away from the bank, rowing with all her strength. The light little craft shot like an arrow [illegible] the river.

When she had reached some distance from the bank and felt herself to be completely out of danger, she turned

*"I beg your pardon," he began.*

round. The young man was standing beside a tree, clinging desperately to a low branch to keep himself from falling. The last remnant of his strength had suddenly forsaken him, and he felt that he was on the point of fainting again.

His look made the shy girl's heart ache. She turned the boat back again with her strong hand, and rowing to the bank drove the keel on to the sandy bottom and sprang to land.

"What is the matter? You are ill," she said pityingly; and advancing toward him. "Why, you are all over blood! Have you been robbed? You're wounded!"

He looked straight into her kind blue eyes, and hope began to come back to him. He felt sure that this girl, whom fate had sent to him, would help him. But somehow he could not tell her a falsehood, and he put aside the suggestion that she herself had given him.

"No," he said, "I have not been robbed. I have run away. I jumped off a train and hurt myself."

"Jumped off a train? Oh, how dreadful! Why, what—what on earth"—

She wanted to ask what had induced him to take so desperate a step.

"I am a political. Have you heard of them?"

Had she heard! Her Vania—her dear Vania, for whom she had prayed all this year and whom she had wept for as lost—was not he a political too?

"A political! Why didn't you tell me so before?" she exclaimed.

He smiled.

"Well, you didn't give me much time," he said.

She smiled, too, remembering her absurd terrors. Their exchange of smiles made them feel like old friends. He looked attentively into her face.

"Haven't I met you before somewhere?" suddenly asked the young man. "It seems to me that I have seen you somewhere."

"No, I am sure we haven't met. I have not left home for three years, but that doesn't matter. I'll do all I can for you, just as if we were old acquaintances—for Vania's sake," she added softly, as if to herself. "Tell me what you want."

"I want to get to the opposite bank."

"All right. Get in."

She jumped into the boat, and he followed her.

"Give me the oar," he said. "I know how to row. You will have to row back again, and you'll get tired."

"Oh, no! I've often rowed across."

For some time they kept silence.

"Your face is covered with blood," said the girl presently. "There's a towel in that basket in the bows."

He took the towel, dipped it in the water and wiped his face with it.

"Sit down in the bottom of the boat. You will be more comfortable there."

He obeyed her like a child.

"Whom are you going to in the village?" she began again. "Friends, or have you relatives there?"

"I have no one there at all."

"No one? Then why do you want to go there?"

They had reached the middle of the great river and were quite alone between earth and sky. They could just see the shore on either side above the surface of the water. The trees and houses looked like tiny objects in a picture. From the bank their boat must have looked like a wee nutshell driven by the wind.

Thus thrown upon each other in the utter solitude of the wide water, they forgot the strangeness of their meeting and were natural and friendly with one another.

The young man smiled faintly at the girl's naive question.

"Do you know what 'covering one's track' means?" he asked.

"No, I don't know."

"Then I hope you never may have to know."

He did not try to explain to her. He was so utterly worn out that every word was an effort to him.

"Ah, I understand," she exclaimed suddenly. "It means making it difficult for people to follow and catch you."

He nodded his head.

"But how will you go on farther when you're so done up that you can hardly sit upright?" asked the girl.

"Oh, I shall manage," he answered. "I am resting now, and by the time we get to the other bank I shall come to life again."

She looked at him incredulously and shook her head.

"You don't believe me? You'll see."

"But you are quite ill."

"Oh, that's nothing. I shall pull through," he answered coolly.

The girl made no answer and fell into a brown study. She frowned a little, and a set, determined look came into her face.

"What are you doing? You're not steering right," he cried out, observing that she had turned the boat and was rowing down stream.

"I am going to take you home with me," she answered simply.

The young man could hardly believe his ears.

"Home with you! But why? Oh, you don't know what you are doing. Why, that may cost you"—

"I know. But what of that?"

She dropped her eyes as if embarrassed or trying to evade something. But her eyes shone under their lowered lashes, her breathing grew quicker and a bright, transparent color flamed in her cheeks. She looked radiantly lovely for a moment.

"But, look here. Why, you're one of us!" he said admiringly, lowering his voice to a whisper.

The girl raised her truthful, confiding eyes to his.

"Then you answered [illegible] I be willing to do it without that? I—it's for Vania's sake. For all I know he may be in the same need as you, and perhaps God will remember me, and send some one to help him too," she ended earnestly.

"She's a good, simple girl," thought the young man. It was a great temptation to him to place himself under her protection, but he fought against it.

"Wait a bit," he said, leaning forward and laying his hand upon her oar. "You surely are not living alone? Do you know to what you expose all your family by sheltering me?"

The girl hesitated for a moment and pondered.

"It doesn't matter," she said at last, freeing the oar from his grasp. "I'll take it all on myself. My people shan't know anything about it. What am I to call you?"

The young man did not answer at once.

"Why do you want to know my name? You will be counted as ten times more guilty if you know who I am."

"Excuse me, you have not understood my question. I have heard from Vania that your people hide their names. I don't want to know your name, but tell me what I am to call you. You can't live without any name at all, you know."

She burst out laughing merrily, like a child.

"All right. Call me Volgin, in memory of our meeting," he said. "And for a Christian name you can call me Vladimir—Vladimir Petrovich. It's my real patronymic," he added gravely.

"Vladimir Petrovich Volgin. Very well. I'll remember. You're an acquaintance of mine, and I met you in the wood and invited you in. Will that do? No, no," she corrected herself hastily. "Not in the wood. I met you in Yermolovka. That's the village on the other bank. That will be better.

We must cover your tracks."

She began to laugh again.

"You would make a capital conspirator," he said, smiling. But she took his words seriously.

"No, I will never be a conspirator," she answered, energetically bending over her oar.

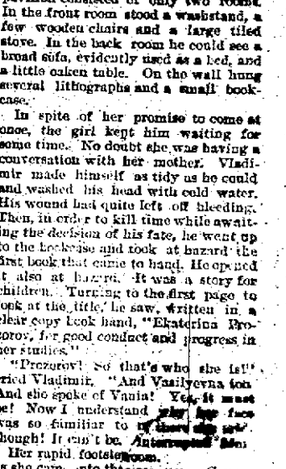
He looked at her with a long, penetrating gaze.

"Don't be too sure beforehand, young lady," he thought to himself with youthful self assurance.

He had spoken the truth in telling her that he needed only a few minutes' rest to come to life again. He had already begun to recover from his exhaustion, and with his physical powers the instincts of the propagandist came back to him.

"Here we are at home," the girl broke in upon the silence.

She began to turn the boat round to the right bank. On the steep, high



*"Mamma wants to see you."*

bank he saw a little white house, half hidden by foliage. It had a high wooden roof, such as middle class country houses often have. In front was a little "pavilion," to the left were outhouses, and behind the house, stretching upward on the rising ground, was a large orchard.

Running the boat to land, Vladimir dragged it on to the

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BURT OLSON,
Editor and Prop'r.

SMETHPORT, FRIDAY, JAN. 7, 1898.


## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

COUNTY.

EDITOR MINER:—Please announce me as a candidate for the office of Treasurer of McKean County, subject to the rules of the Republican party.

C. A. DUKE.

Dodge Corners, Pa., Nov. 29, 1897.

EDITOR MINER:—Please announced me as a candidate for the office of Treasurer of McKean County, subject to the rules of the Republican party.

JOHN W. CAMPBELL.

Kane, Pa., Jan. 4, 1898.

TOWNSHIP.

EDITOR MINER:—Please announce me as a candidate for the office of supervisor of Keating township, subject to the rules of the Republican party.

F. C. FREEMAN.

Gifford P. O., Nov. 22, 1897.

EDITOR MINER:—Please announce me as a candidate for the office of Supervisor of Keating township, subject to the rules of the Republican party.

J. H. STRATTON.

Corydon, Pa., Dec. 1, 1897.

EDITOR MINER:—Please announce me as a candidate for the office of Supervisor of Keating township, subject to the rules of the Republican party.

FRANK FRITZ.

Cyclone, Pa., Dec. 11, 1897.

EDITOR MINER:—Please announce me as a candidate for re-election to the office of Supervisor of Keating township, subject to the rules of the Republican party.

LAWRENCE HERZOG.

Furnace Valley, Pa., Dec. 20, 1897.

EDITOR MINER:—Please announce me as a candidate for the office of Supervisor of Keating township, subject to the rules of the Republican party.

N. U. HYDE.

East Smethport, Pa., Dec. 30, 1897.

C. W. CATLIN, the rising young attorney of Port Allegany, will be a candidate for District Attorney in 1899.

HON. F. C. LEONARD of Coudersport has been appointed Marshall for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

THE Free Silverites of Ohio are putting forth every effort to defeat Mark Hanna for United States Senator. Last Monday they succeeded in organizing the House by electing an anti-Hanna man for the Speakership. The chances are, however, that when the final test comes, Hanna will muster a sufficient force to re-elect him to the Senate.

IN another column will be found the name of John W. Campbell of Kane, announcing himself as a candidate for county treasurer. Mr. Campbell is one of our brightest young men and a thorough Republican. He was a candidate for the same office three years ago and although defeated for the nomination, he manfully went to work to assist in rolling up a large majority for his successful opponent, T. B. Clark. Mr. Campbell is a successful business man, having been in partnership with his father since 1888 in the lumber business at Kane and other places. He is a popular gentleman and many friends wherever he goes. If so inclined he can to receive the nomination there is no question as to his election.

THE Swedish citizens of McKean county who constitute a large and intelligent body of Republican voters, have emphatically endorsed the candidacy of Hon. Charles W. Stone for governor. They have voiced the sentiment of the Northwest with respect to Mr. Stone and of the district, which he has so ably represented in Congress. Mr. Stone needs no introduction to the other sections of the State. His fame and reputation are national. His ability is unquestioned and his public services have been sufficiently important to entitle him to this distinguished honor. Mr. Stone's friends have made no extraordinary efforts at creating a political boom in his behalf, but he has developed quite a strength in all parts of the State that is most encouraging to them.—Oil City Derrick.

A TEN thousand dollar cage for the criminals of McKean county, in addition to the present jail, doesn't strike taxpayers favorable. Beside appearing very grand in itself, it looks like official will hound every honest county comptroller's lookout from it. Kane's regards to the session is not central as communications say, but her railroad are also nearer the excellent. We believe than any contemplatory at Al county. If $10,000 must town in the it be for a new jail spent, let county buildings in Kane, create the above sum for that purpose give the citizens of Kane will help and the court house and as tight a jail as fine a is in northwestern Pennsylvania there out a dollar's additional expense with the county. So long as county business must be transacted in Smethport, a small outlay upon the present structures appears all that is necessary. If a big outlay is to be made, move the county seat to some wide-awake center of population.—Kane Leader.

The above must have been written just after the editor of the Leader had eaten his Christmas dinner, as he was undoubtedly suffering from a severe case of indigestion. He states that Kane is nearer Allegheny penitentiary than any other town in the county. Well may it be. There is no one that will question that assertion. Then he says, "Locate the county building in Kane, give the above sum for that purpose and the citizens of Kane will build as fine a court house and as tight a jail as there is in northwestern Pennsylvania without a dollar's additional expense to the county." How extremely generous the editor of the Leader has become all at once. The grand jury at the last term of court must have had an inkling of the wealth stowed away in the mountain hamlet when they ignored the bill allowing the county to build a bridge for the wealthy citizens of Kane. If you are possessed of so much wealth build your little bridge, but do not lose any sleep over the jail or court house being built at Kane. The jail is in need of extensive repairs and they will be judiciously made by the board of county commissioners. The jail has been insecure for years, and ought to have been repaired long ago, and as it would have been only for such fools as the man who drives the editorial quill on the Leader.

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3, 1898.

The U. S. treasury starts into 1898 with a more pleasing outlook than it has had at the beginning of a year for sometime. There was a surplus of about $1,750,000 for the month of December, and is reasonably certain that with the exception of the present month and possibly April, when heavy quarterly payments on account of pensions have to be made, every month of the present fiscal year will show a surplus. It should not be forgotten that the payments made on account of the purchase of the Union Pacific Railroad were not included to make that December surplus. While this condition is gratififying to President McKinley and every Republican, it is especially gratifying to Chairman Dingley, who predicted many months ago when the extra session of Congress was considering his tariff bill, that the government's financial condition would improve, just as it has done under the operation of that bill as a law. On Saturday, Mr. Dingley furnished the Press Associations with a detailed statement of the revenues under the Dingley law and of the revenue outlook.

Judge McComas, who was popular in Washington when he was a member of the house and who has increased in popularity since he occupied a seat upon the bench of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, has forged ahead in the Senatorial race in Maryland since Gov. Lowndes, who is also very popular in Washington, withdrew in his favor, and the impression is now general that Judge McComas will be elected to succeed Senator Gorman. It is no reflection upon the other gentlemen who are candidates, active or passive, to say that the election of Judge McComas to the Senate would please more Republicans in Washington than the election of any other man named.

President McKinley is thoroughly alive to the meaning of the present attitude of the great powers of Europe toward China. He knows that they are after commerce as well as territory as far away as China, but it does want to keep the valuable Chinese trade it already has and to add to it, and, while not intending to get mixed up in any European deals or squabbles, it does intend to take whatever steps that may be necessary to protect American commercial interests in China. The U. S. has treaty rights in China which must be recognized by any power that acquires territory by any means in that country, and with that end solely in view, the President and his advisers are watching every move made by the powers of Europe in or towards China. In other words, we have nothing to do with the relations of China and other nations so long as our treaty rights are respected.

Notwithstanding the persistent efforts of a portion of the Democratic press to prevent contributions, the President's manly appeal for donations for the relief of the poor cubans, who are suffering for the necessities of life by reason of the conditions on the island and not for any faults of their own, has touched the charitable hearts of the country and substantial relief is pouring into Cuba by every steamer. Arrangements have been made for Miss Clara Barton, President of the American Red Cross, to go to Cuba with a staff of assistants to help the U. S. Consular agents in distributing the aid among the suffering. The President is much gratified at the prompt response of the country to his appeal for aid.

President McKinley will not send the nomination of Gov. Griggs to be Attorney General to the Senate until the nomination of Attorney General McKenna to the Supreme Court has been confirmed, but no delay is looked for in the latter.

This year, for the first time since 1893, when the death of Mrs. Harrison caused its suspension, there was no New Year's Day reception at the White House. President McKinley spent the day in rest, going for a drive with Mrs. McKinley in the morning and receiving several personal friends during the afternoon and evening.

The Democrats and the assistant Democrats are trying hard to make it appear that the financial position of President McKinley, which is in strict accord with the platform upon which he was elected, furnishes a reason for the Senators who who are popularly known as "Silver Republicans" to break their pleasant relations with him but so far as can be learned it is labor wasted. Some of these would be mischief makers may be surprised when Senator Wolcott makes his promised speech, explaining the trip of himself and colleagues to Europe in behalf of international bimetalism. Just before the Senate took its holiday recess Mr. Wolcott said that he hoped to be ready to make that statement about the middle of January.

### THE POETRY OF PROTECTION.

Just a little dollar on its mission sent, makes a lot of people glad each time the coin is spent. You pay it to the butcher, for meat to give you strength) he takes it to the grocer from whom it goes at length, some pretty bit of cloth or lace his better half to buy, or helps to get her winter hat to make her rival sigh. The dry goods man sends on the coin to pay his market bill, and though the coin is often spent, it stays a dollar still, and every time 'tis spent at home, some act of good is done in "booming" local industries, ere setting of the sun.

But if you take that shining coin and break the local chain, the chances are that from afar 'twill not return again. If once it passes out of town, the butcher and the baker, the grocer and the dry goods man, the cook, the undertaker, the carpenter the carriage-wright, the blacksmith, every one, will lose the chance to touch that coin setting of the sun.

Keep the little dollar moving well, and, every time it changes hands somebody's good 'twill sell. That single little dollar has thus a wondrous power to make somebody better a dozen times an hour. It pays the bill and wards off ill, and ne'er its power relaxes to sooth the doctor, buy the coal and pay for taxes and taxes.—American Economist.

Two attorneys who displayed Carson City proclivities before a Kansas City judge last week were told by him to step into a private room and fight it out and he would see fair play. The judge has struck the proper chord, but he might have gone a step farther and given the witnesses, who are generally browbeaten by attorneys, a chance to take a fling at some of the warlike lawyers.

### The Sun

may shine brightly and the birds may sing their sweetest songs but if your stomach is not right there is no happiness for you. Keep a bottle of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin in the house and use it according to directions and the sun and birds will not shine and sing in vain. Constipation and indigestion cured. Trial size 10c (10 doses) and 50c and $1.00 bottles. Of A. B. Armstrong & Co.

Miss Allie Hughes of Norfolk, Va., was frightfully burned on the face and neck. Pain was instantly relieved by DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, which healed the injury without leaving a scar. It is the famous pile remedy. A. B. Armstrong & Co.

A. B. Armstrong & Co. guarantee the Americus Silver Trees to give entire satisfaction or refund money.

Good horses and ice for sale. Inquire at this office or of the undersigned.

M. S. COBURN.

## QUALITY AND PREPARATION OF FOOD.

"The world is yours, that which is good select; and being wise all evil things reject."

It is with some hesitancy that I endeavor to take a few moments of your time this evening, in considering the quality and preparation of food. I do not need to call your attention to the fact that there are many in this audience much better qualified by education and experience to discuss this question than I am. However, I will endeavor to express a few of the truths that have come under my notice during some years of experience as a house keeper.

As a commencement toward its consideration I wish to say a word relative to the place that cookery holds in many of our homes. Good cooking is an art, and should be so regarded. But we find comparatively few women who are anxious and willing to become artists in that line. Many say, "Good cooks are born not made." When they have said this, they have excused themselves for any lack of interest or responsibility they have evinced. Our daughters are taught language, literature, music, art, painting and dancing, but in nearly every case when their education is pronounced complete, they know nothing of the composition and preparation of the food necessary to sustain their bodies and make life a pleasure instead of a drag; themselves strong, robust and rosy instead of whining complaining invalids. Much of the comfort, health and happiness of our homes depend upon the food we eat and the way in which it is prepared. "A great many of the sins of the world depend and are traceable directly to inferior food, poorly prepared. A carnal stomach has often more to do with sin than a carnal heart."

A popular writer has said, "You may make a home enchantingly beautiful, you may hang it with costly pictures, have its rooms clean, airy and convenient, but if the stomach is fed with sour bread and burned unsavoury meats it will raise such a rebellion that the eyes will see no beauty in any thing. Let the coffee for breakfast be muddy, cold and poorly flavored, the tea for luncheon boiled and boiled indefinitely and the bitterness of the mixture will add a rancor to the entire pursuits of the day."

Time will not permit the mention of but a few articles of food to-night. I have selected these among the common food products: Meat, bread and vegetables, touching incidentally upon eggs and cheese.

It is said, "Things done by halves were better left undone, the most sought workman is the careful one."

In the beginning women should make a study of food; what roasts and boiling pieces furnish the best and largest amount of meat, what kinds of steak are the tenderest. In a degree this is largely a matter of taste as far more depends upon the way it is treated after leaving the hand of the butcher. In preparing steak first remove all rough ends and tough outside skin, (these can be used for making stock) pound carefully, grease a wire toasting iron and place the meat upon it and place it over an open fire. As soon as the heat begins to start the juices of the meat, turn quickly and continue to do so until the meat is sufficiently cooked. Salt both sides of the steak carefully before turning for the last time. Serve upon a hot platter immediately. The advantage to be derived from broiling steak, lamb chop, ham and bacon is in the fact that the juices of the meat are retained instead of being in the bottom of the frying-pan.

To prepare a roast of beef for the table, wipe off the outside of the meat with a damp cloth that no dirt may be clinging to it. Place the pan in which it is to be roasted over the fire until it is very hot, then sear the outside of the meat upon this heated surface to prevent the escape of the juices, salt and pepper carefully and place in a quick oven. Baste often until well done. Remove to a hot platter and serve upon well heated plates. Nothing detracts so much from the quality of food as cold dishes.

Boiled meat, fresh or salt should be cleaned in like manner. Place in a kettle and nearly covered with salted boiling water. Place over the fire and allow it to boil fifteen minutes, then remove to the back of the stove and let it simmer until it is thoroughly done. Pork requires a much longer time to roast than beef. After cleaning, salting and peppering, dust over the outer surface a little powdered sage. Rub the roasting pan with a clove or garlic, put in the meat, add a little boiling water and put in the oven. As it requires a longer time to roast, the oven does not need to be so intense. Veal, mutton and lamb also require roasting a long time. And right here let me urge upon the housewives present, if they are not already possessed of one, the great benefit and advantage to be derived from a meat-grinder. The farmer believes that he cannot derive as good and plenteous results, with as little labor, without the use of many of the improved methods of mowing, dragging and reaping, etc. This is no doubt true, and equally true of the household department over which his wife presides. There are few improved implements for one in the kitchen, without which time is wasted and the best results not attained. The meat grinder is one of these. A great variety of articles can be ground in it—meat cooked or raw, dry bread for rolling purposes, bread pudding and dressing for roast chicken and turkey, horse radish, hard-boiled eggs, cooked beans for soup, etc.

An excellent dish for the tea table is veal or beef loaf: Three pounds of veal ground fine. Place in a kettle, and add one pint of boiling water, and cook thirty minutes. When cool add three soda crackers ground fine, two eggs beaten stiff, salt and pepper to taste, one-half teaspoonful of mace, and one-half cup of sweet cream. Mix well together and roll out with the hand into a long round loaf. Sprinkle with finely ground bread crumbs and pour melted butter over the top. Place in the oven and cook thirty or forty minutes. When cold cut in thin slices.

When we turn to bread we are bewildered at the infinite variety and quality of bread.

Nearly every housewife has her pet theory and ideal of what bread should be and how to proceed to make it. Bread can be divided into many divisions and subdivisions, chief among which are brown and white bread and steamed and warm breads. An excellent recipe for white bread made with yeast and one that took the highest premium at the food exposition, recently held in Philadelphia, is as follows: One quart of the best white flour, well heaped. I prefer Thornton and Chester's flour. Rub well into the flour a liberal teaspoonful of good butter. In nearly a quart of water quite warm, put a teaspoonful of salt and the same quantity of sugar. With the flour and water make a batter, to which add one compressed yeast cake, dissolved in a little warm water. Beat thoroughly until it appears light and frothy. Cover and set in a warm place to raise. When very light mix with flour and knead, endeavoring to get the right quantity of flour at first, as it is not best for the quality of the bread to keep adding flour while kneading. Knead gently, until the dough is smooth, firm and velvety. Again set to raise in a warm place until thoroughly light. Place on the board, divide in half, and lightly knead into loaves. This will make two loaves. Allow this to raise again for the third and last time. When light place in a hot oven, gradually cooling as the bread bakes. If compressed yeast is used, this bread should be set in the morning, home-made yeast at night.

For entire wheat or graham bread use one quart of flour, a scant quart of water, three-fourths cup of molasses, one tablespoonful of butter and one yeast cake, compressed, dissolved in a little water, and a teaspoonful of salt.

## Communications.

Have taxpayers any rights that school directors are bound to respect?

This is the question which is agitating the minds of the taxpayers residing in Stickle and Kent Hollows as they see their children trudge through the mud from two to three miles. The school directors of Keating township have thrown up the schools on Rush hill and in Kent and Reed Hollows, and have ordered the parents to send the children belonging to these schools to a new school which they have built on top of John McKeever's hill. Being in somewhat of a hurry, they neglected to get a deed for the land before building, and at last advices were unable to procure a title. The new school house is located two miles from the nearest scholars in Kent Hollow, and the furthest scholars have only to walk three miles. The Stickle Hollow children find themselves entirely shut out of school; as it is too far to send them to King's Corners or to the Reed Hollow school. Owing to the trouble in getting a title to the new school grounds the new school house is still empty, while part of the Kent Hollow children walk three miles to Reed Hollow; two are too small to walk that distance, being only seven years old and stay at home; three others walk two miles to the Frisbee school taught by Miss Millie Patterson. This school is badly crowded. There are over fifty scholars on the roll and in order to keep up the school work Miss Patterson is obliged to be at the school house by 8 o'clock and remain until 5 o'clock. Miss Patterson is a very conscientious teacher and in doing her very best to meet the extra demand on her time and patience.

Now the school laws say that when there are more than fifty scholars in one school the directors are obliged to open another school. The law also declares the directors are obliged to furnish transportation when the children are obliged to travel or unreasonable roads. A leading physician of Smethport offers to swear that to compel children to travel over the famous Rush hill road, up the Reed Hollow hill and over the notorious Randall hill roads, which are noted for being impassable in winter on account of snow drifts, would be dangerous to life and health. To keep the roads open for foot passengers twice a day will cost the township more than the wages of three teachers.

The directors claim the average attendance in the Kent Hollow school was too low to afford a teacher this year. Owing to the children being vaccinated and the whooping cough being epidemic, the attendance was low, but is not likely to occur again. There are thirteen children between the ages of six and eighteen residing in Kent Hollow and four scholars from Austin township. As the Austin school board will pay tuition for them. The directors gave as one reason for closing the schools, the fact that they have run the township in debt $2,500, one of the directors advancing the insurance policy to run out on one of the school houses. When it burned they were obliged to run in debt to build a new one. Does this not substantiate those twelve votes cast for the direct taxing of each tax payer? Now the taxpayers want to be shown where the saving comes in in closing three good school houses worth in the neighborhood of $4,000, for only $150 to their friends. But right here comes in the law again. School directors cannot sell school property without the consent of the court, and the taxpayers of Keating township believe Judge Mortson to be too honorable to lend himself to such a scheme. The new school house will not furnish room for over fifty. The directors claim their scheme will result in taxation. Does anyone believe it? They pay higher wages in Keating than Liberty or Annin townships pay teachers, and we cannot see that our schools are any better than in other townships. Economy in the wages of teachers is poor economy, yet if the school board is in debt, lowering the wages of the teachers for one or two years would balance the books, and if the board were inclined to help themselves they might effect a saving by not having to rent the hall to the district school for $50 a year in addition to his salary of $75 per year. The directors might avoid purchasing new fangled chairs, etc., until they were out of debt. The school board might recollect that "public office is public trust," and that the law does not intend school directors to be tyrants and dictators. The taxpayers would warn them that there is a hereafter coming, and should one of these men ask for a new appointment they will find him in this matter barring him from office.

Again we ask if our rights have taxpayers any rights school directors are bound to respect?

INTERESTED.

## W. C. T. U. COLUMN.

The impression is quite general that it is time and energy wasted, that it is useless to distribute leaflets and tracts and hold temperance meetings. The following letter from a friend in Ohio will show that one of many experiences of a similar kind acknowledgment of the work done here.

[illegible] Ohio, Dec. [illegible], 1897.

Inclosed please find [illegible] for which please send me [illegible] Leaflets. I am glad to say that I have not entirely lost interest in temperance work, although I have been discouraged at times. I have been [illegible] the last year, and [illegible] interest in the work done there.

[illegible] Ohio, Dec. 23, 1897.

Inclosed please find [illegible] for which please send me [illegible] Leaflets. I am glad to say that I have not entirely lost interest in temperance work, although I have been discouraged at times. I have been [illegible] the last year, and [illegible] interest in the work done there.

The Leaflets are perhaps to me more than to others, as I am in such close contact with people of opinion in selection and preparation of what to eat and drink. Mrs. Lees of Philadelphia, the experienced cook says that dyspepsia is made by over-eating and not by what we eat. The most free from indigestible food is the one to each person. The one who eats the most twenty-five cents. Please find inclosed in which you are to send the Leaflets. Bring and upon receipt of the money I will forward to you the Leaflets. Have the teapot well scalded before putting in the tea. Let it stand for a few minutes. Then pour over it boiling water. Let it stand for a few minutes. Then pour over it boiling water. Let it stand for a few minutes. Then pour over it boiling water

# F. G. Lindholm & Co.

## Redction Sale!

With February 1st our business year closes. When we take inventory our stock must be greatly diminished. It must be as low as business will allow.
To bring this about we take the most effectual course—in inaugurating a sweeping

## Mark Down!

We Emphasize

Ladies' Cloaks, Fur Collarettes, Flannels, Skirts, Underwear.

We want to impress upon you that this is more than "newspaper talk". You cannot afford to go elsewhere for present or future needs.

## A Few Specimen Snaps

Evaporated Peaches, 9c
Evaporated Prunes, 5c
Rio Coffee, 10c

## GROCERIES!

To beat them all.

## F. G. Lindholm & Co.

Dry Goods, Groceries, Shoes.

Jan. 7, 1898. Smethport, Pa.



## THE NEW YEAR

is here and you can commence it in no better way than by having your picture taken. "See how you looked a year ago."

## DON'T FORGET

that I can give you better figures on crayons than any agent.

*THE LIGHT IS ALL RIGHT NOW TO SIT FOR PHOTOS.*

"IKE" GLEASON, The Photographer, Smethport, Pa.



"SHOES."

We will send to any responsible person SHOES to select from. We have everything in

Fine Shoes

In styles and quality that cannot be purchased in any small town. We make a specialty of FINE SHOES; every width and size.

BURT & PACKARD'S Korrect Shape Shoes for Men. We refer you to our many customers in Smethport.

R. W. Bloodsworth & Co., Olean, N. Y.



Commence the New Year by Smoking

The American Gentleman Cigar.

You will never regret the good resolution you have started. For sale at all first-class cigar stands in Smethport and vicinity.



McKean County Miner

Entered at the postoffice at Smethport as second-class mail matter.

SMETHPORT, FRIDAY, JAN. 7, 1898.


### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

—Miss Susie Acre is on the sick list.

—Argument court was in session this week.

—See Haskell's new advertisement of gas burners.

—Harpers' Bazar and Weekly are exceptionally fine.

—C. A. Burdick remembered the MINER with calendars for 1898.

—Wm. O'Reilly is improving after a severe illness of several months.

—Andrew Perry killed a good sized wild cat in Perry Hollow last Tuesday.

—See the adv. of Ford's Red Front of Olean in regard to ready made clothing.

—Read the new adv. of McCoy's drug store. It tells you how to start the new year.

—Mrs. Eugenia Hamlin gave a progressive euchre party last Wednesday night.

—The jury commissioners met Monday and have been busy since filling the wheel for 1898.

—"Ike" Gleason has a change of adv. this week. He is doing fine work at reasonable prices.

—List of uncalled for letters week ending Jan. 1: Miss Mary Napp and Miss Ethel Patterson.

—The G. A. R. Post have moved their headquarters from the Backus building to the Odd Fellow's hall.

—The MINER is pleased to note that Dr. Burg Chadwick has been retained in his position as county physician.

—Kenova with a population of 4384 according to the census of 1890, has 16 licensed hotels and saloons.

—The snow drift on Bush Hill has been removed and teams can travel orderly the entire road over the hill.

—The county commissioners made no change in the appointments last Monday. All the old force was retained.

—The county auditors met last Monday and adjourned for one week. They will commence their labors next Monday.

—D. C. Young starts the New Year with an interesting adv. telling of bargains to be found at his popular store.

—The subject of Rev. T. R. Taylor's sermon next Sunday evening will be, "Character Wreckers, or The Bust body."

—See the new advertisement of Mrs. G. C. Palmer of Olean, the popular milliner. She is offering bargains at her store.

—O. L. Bard has moved into the residence opposite his store at East Smethport and commenced housekeeping Tuesday last.

—H. W. Marcus has a new adv. in this issue in which he has something to say about the oil market, as well as cloak sales. Read it.

—Frank Brown of Bradford, who abducted little Grace Lee last fall, was lodged in Castle Davis last Monday in default of $500 bail.

—The G. A. R. and W. R. C. open meeting and public installation at Odd Fellows' hall last night was a pleasant and enjoyable affair.

—T. B. Purtle has his blacksmith shop up and the roof on. A. T. Palmer has a large force of workmen rushing his livery stable to completion.

—H. L. Hart, composition roller manufacturer, has sent out a very neat pocket calendar for 1898. They are just what any business man needs.

—Last Wednesday the Racket Store received a large stock of new goods at prices that will be a complete surprise. Look out for a new adv. next week.

—Last Wednesday Mr. and Mrs. Fred Block of Marvin Creek were in town and made out a deed of their farm to H. L. Stoner & Co., of Hazelhurst, consideration $7,500.

—The parties drilling the new well in Bloomster Hollow this week struck the fifth sand or what is known as the Haskell sand. This gives good indications of an oil pool near there.

—Wm Barry of Cole Creek had five sheep killed and twelve wounded by dogs last Sunday. The dogs were killed afterward. This will make quite a draft on *the county sheep fund.*

—On the editorial page will be found the address, "Quality and Preparation of Food," delivered by Mrs. Helen S. Morrison at the evening session of Farmers' Institute, Dec. 21, 1897.

—S. G. Bush gladdened the hearts of the MINER force Monday with good cigars *and his compliments.* A better selection for court house janitor than Mr. Bush, would be hard to make.

—The Buffalo Courier's *Calendar for* 1898 excells in artistic skill anything ever produced by that publishing house. The MINER is in receipt of one of these productions of master printer's art.

—Miss Helen McCoy visits Clermont weekly where she has quite a large class in music. To those who desire their children to take music lessons the MINER advises securing the services of Miss McCoy.

—Mrs. J. Husted and child, Grace, are confined to the house with diphtheria. Anti-toxine treatment is being used by Dr. Clark. The house has been quarantined. Miss Bertha Kerns is acting as nurse.

—Dr. and Mrs. Henry L. McCoy have issued invitations announcing the marriage of their daughter, Miss Grace, to Dr. E. E. Baker, which will take place at St. Lukes church Saturday Jan. 15, at high noon.

—A Lycoming county man boasts of a link of sausage fifty feet in length. The Muncy Democrat thinks he should next try and bake a buckwheat cake as big as a race track and invite his friends to breakfast.

—Nicholas Smith of Cole Creek had Arthur Francis of the same place arrested for assault and battery. A hearing was held before Squire Reynolds at East Smethport last Monday and a settlement reached.

—T. H. Purtle started up his forge last Wednesday and is now ready to do business. Give him a call, when in need of *anything in his line. He has a fine* new shop and will soon have everything running in the old style.

—We are glad to learn that Mr. Frank T. Carpenter's work is to continue a feature of the *Illustrated Buffalo Express* during 1898. Mr. Carpenter is the most entertaining special correspondent in the United States to-day.

—The MINER is in receipt of the Philadelphia Inquirer Almanac in book form for 1898. This work is running over with useful information and ought to be in every business man's office and *in every* home in the land. It is a regular encyclopedia of information.

—At the home of the bride's parents at Port Allegany, Dec. 24, Miss Addie E. Hadley was united in marriage with Mr. Fred Mix, an estimable young man of Bradford. Miss Hadley is the daughter of Ex-County Surveyor M. J. Hadley and has many warm personal friends among her acquaintances.

—The party given by Misses Edna Townsend and Dora Keenan at the opera house last Tuesday evening was one of the most enjoyable social events of the season. About thirty couples were present, and all speak highly of the manner in which they were entertained. A number of out-of-town guests were in attendance.

—Last Monday the Bradford Star entered upon its 21st year and to fully celebrate the happy event put on a brand new dress and a fine new head. The Star presents a very attractive appearance and *the MINER hopes that continued prosperity* may be its portion and that it may remain true to the principles of Republicanism and protection.

—The C. L. S. C., will meet on Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 11, at their regular place, the Baptist lecture room. A full program has been arranged among other interesting matter the President's Message will be discussed. Anyone having anything to say on this important subject is cordially invited to be present. By order of the President, Helen S. Morrison.

—There was held an election of officers for the Junior Epworth League Tuesday. The following are the newly elected officers for the ensuing year: Superintendent, Mrs. D. L. Forsythe; Vice Superintendent, Mrs. M. L. Church; President, Charles Church; 1st Vice President, Myron Gallup; 2d Vice President, Martha Eckels, 3rd Vice President, Ruth Holmes; 4th Vice President, Dewly Davis; Secretary, Margaret Bierer; Treasurer, Rachel Mayo; Ushers, Sidney Burdick and Herbert Yerdon. This League grows under *the wise direction* of its superintendent, graduating from time to time members to the Senior League, now under the faithful presidency of Miss Mary E. Brennan.

—James M. Tracy of Bradford, Pa., dropped in to see us Friday while on his way to visit his brother, Rev. Father Tracy at Rouzdale. Mr. Tracy is one of the leading Democrats of McKean county and was postmaster of East Smethport *during Cleveland's first and second ad*ministrations. He is also a brother of Esther Tracy, at one time pastor of St. Francis church in this place. He has not been in this section since 1865 and was greatly surprised at the many changes made since that time.—Clearfield Republican.

—Several years ago two young ladies, Misses Barr and Grier, fell in love with two brothers by the name of Card at Roulette. Unknown to each other their wedding days were set for the same date. When this was discovered one of the young ladies concluded, in order to attend her friend's wedding, to postpone her own one week, which was accordingly done. Both were married and lived happily for several years, when both husbands died within just one week of each other. Recently the widows died exactly one week apart.

—The week of prayer services in the M. E. church are being held with marked and increasing interest. Rev. E. H. Latimer attended his first quarterly meeting for the conference year, preaching Sunday morning and also Monday and Tuesday evenings. Evangelistic services will be held during the coming week. The pastor will deliver brief addresses and prayers and conference will *follow.* Subjects for next Sabbath: Morning, "Jacob at Peniel, or Prevailing Prayer," in the evening, "How Can Man be Found by the Sinner." At the close of the sermon here will be an after service. The new book entitled, "Songs of the Lord, No. 2," will be used. The general public is most cordially invited to attend the services.

—At St. Luke's church on next Sunday evening Mendelssohn's oratorio "Hear my Prayer" will be sung by the full choir. This fine motett or short oratorio is one of Mendelssohn's best compositions and is written to the words of the first seven verses of the fifty-fifth Psalm. The *sweet-toned* soprano solo "O that I had wings like a Dove," was written for Jenny Lind, the great Swedish singer. This fine solo is brought in as a soprano obligato in the *last part of the work. The text will be* taken by Miss McCoy. The rector will give an explanation of the verses of the Psalm, and an interpretation of the music. St. Luke's choir has become widely known as one of the best outside of our largest cities, and the rendering of this sacred oratorio is an indication of its high standard.

#### The Lecture.

The lecture delivered by John Temple Graves at the opera house last Thursday night could only be appreciated by being heard. It certainly was a masterpiece of oratory and the Travelers Club are deserving of a rich compliment from those who were so fortunate as to be present for providing such a rich treat. We are lacking in language to give the speaker proper tribute for the marvelous manner in which he handled his subject. Commencing with the newly created Adam alone in the Garden of Eden, and when he was blessed with a companion to share his joys and sorrows, the speaker took up his discourse on "Woman," and for one hour and a half he kept his audience intensely interested, all eager to catch the next word that fell from his lips. In telling of the trials that had confronted women in the six thousand years since the creation of man for their advancement, Mr. Graves vividly described the many hardships that had been endured by those who brought us into being, in their efforts to reach the sphere to which they are justly entitled. Mr. Graves has no superior in the lecture field and few equals, and the noble work that he is engaged in ought to endear him to the heart of the whole human family. May his life work be crowned with abundant success.

#### To the Public.

The loss of my livery barn by fire makes it impossible for me to make my patrons quite as comfortable as heretofore, but am able to supply anything in the way of rigs and double carriages very promptly. My office is located in the Backus block directly opposite the court house, where I would be pleased to have my friends make their headquarters and I solicit a continuance of your patronage. As quick as circumstances will permit I will provide suitable quarters to care for the transient trade.

Very Respectfully,
A. T. PALMER.

5-3t

I have for sale one carriage, one light single harness and one good bicycle. Would trade the above for a colt past two years old or pay cash for same. Call on or address:

E. H. DUNTLEY,
Smethport, Pa.

#### Ballard's Snow Liniment.

If you have a terrible pain in the small of the back, get a bottle of Snow Liniment. It will positively cure it and at once. Try it and recommend it to your friends. Sold at Chadwick's drug store.

—Business

## [illegible] SONG.

[illegible]
Up early and up in the thanksgiving dawn,
Up through the woodwinds and,
Up through the forest with eager feet,
Up where the sun bird from,
Up to the work of the clamoring mart,
Up to the toil hours every
Up to the [illegible] who are near our hearts
Glad help us!—we have sold the day
—Richard Bates in Chap Book.

## I LOVED HER FRIEND.

She had whispered, "Yes, Jack, I love you," in response to his question. His kisses were still warm on her lips. Their hearts were beating in unison, though not so tumultuously as before, and now that the first rapture and thrill were over they were asking questions and making their little confessions after the manner of lovers on the threshold of an engagement.

"How many times have I been in love before? Now, Jack, do you think that is a fair question?" she asked, meeting his look with a roguish glance.

"Why, certainly it is, Dora," he replied earnestly. "You say you love me, so it doesn't really make any difference about the others. They're done for now, but I think I ought to know. Still, if there are so many of them"—

"Please stop, Jack. I won't have you saying such dreadful things, and with that look on your face," she interrupted, playfully placing her hand over his mouth, but quickly withdrawing it when he attempted to kiss it.

"How dare you," she exclaimed, "after the way you've been talking"

"Well, if you don't want me to say things why don't you answer my questions"

"What, Jack?"

"I am afraid you must, my dear."

"And you won't hate me after I tell, will you?"

"Well"—

"That depends,' you are going to say. You needn't hesitate so long. I can read your thoughts."

"Can you? That's convenient for you, I'm sure. I wish I could read yours, then I'd know the answer to my questions."

"Would you really like to know?"

"Why, yes, or I shouldn't have asked it."

"Well, Jack, if it will relieve your mind any to know it you have no predecessors."

"Are you sure, Dora?"

"Yes, Jack. You are the first and only."

"Thanks awfully, Dora. I'm glad to hear it, and now that question is settled we will"—

"Oh, no, my boy! You don't get off quite so easily as that! I want your confession now. About how many dozen times have you been in love, pray tell?"

Jack Vernon winced. He hadn't counted on this exactly

"Come, young man, you are now on the witness stand, sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" she continued banteringly

"Must I?" said Jack, helplessly repeating her question of a few minutes before.

"I am afraid you must, my dear," mimicked she.

"But I am afraid you will hate me after I confess."

"In the record, then, so long?"

"No. It is a very short one. I have never loved but once—before."

"And she—she refused you?"

"No; I never asked her"

"Why not? You see, I want the whole story now"

"Because of pride. She was a wealthy heiress, I a penniless lawyer, with my fame and fortune yet to make. I loved her; I am not ashamed to say it. She was a woman that one could not help loving; she was all to me then that you are now, and"—

"And more. Go on and say it, Jack. I want the whole truth."

"No, I won't say that, but she was the [illegible] and love was a new sensation to me, and if I had been her equal in wealth and station I might—but, pshaw! What's the use of telling you all this? It is all over now. Her love was not for me. I have put it aside—and, besides, I have you. But why are you looking so grave, Dora? Have I confessed too much? You wanted the whole truth, you know"

"Yes, and I am glad you were brave enough to tell it. How long ago was it that—that this happened?" she faltered.

"Three years."

"And her name?" she asked, in low tones.

"Need I tell that?"

"Yes, please," said Dora faintly

"Edith Burton."

Dora's face grew suddenly pale.

"I thought perhaps she was the one," she said in a voice that Jack scarcely recognized.

"Why, do you know her?" he exclaimed in surprise.

"I spent a week with her at boarding school," answered Dora. She had regained control of her voice now "She is a good, noble woman, far better than I am, and I don't wonder that you love her."

"You mean loved," corrected Jack. "My love for her is in the past tense, not the present."

"Time love can never die," quoted Dora gravely. "Wasn't it the divine William who said that? But there, Jack, we have talked enough of love for one evening. Don't you think so?"

"But you haven't promised to marry me yet."

"You didn't ask me that question. You simply asked me if I loved you, and you got your answer, I believe."

"And I am to take the rest for granted, eh?"

"Well, no. Nothing should be taken for granted in this world. I'll give you better proof than that now. I think I'd prefer to put it in writing"

"My, my! How formal we are getting after all is over. But, after all, I think I prefer it that way, then I can carry your note next to my heart for a measure until you are mine for good and all. Shall I run over home for it tomorrow morning? I'm anxious to get it as soon as possible."

"No, I'll mail it to your office in New York."

"All right, Dora, and now just one parting kiss." He bent down and planted it like an [illegible] her unresisting lips. "I'll be in [illegible] dear. Now, please forget about [illegible] ever was any other girl and don't [illegible] as mine the next time I call. [illegible] to-morrow evening [illegible] happens. Good night, Dora."

"Good night, Jack."

Jack Vernon reached his office in a [illegible] mood the next morning, he [illegible] Edith Burton's note containing him. [illegible] it open, he read:

"Rochester, N. Y., 189[illegible]. Dora's [illegible] Jack, I [illegible] for you [illegible] and I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]